

Debs Talks.

[Continued from 2d page.]

a last resort, the delegates, by unanimous vote, determined that unless the Pullman company would agree to do justice to their employes within five days, the members of the order would decline to haul Pullman cars. This action, be it remembered, was not taken until the strike had been on six weeks and every conceivable effort to obtain redress had failed because of the obstinacy of the company.

"Up to this point the trouble was confined to the Pullman company and its employes. How, then, did the strike extend to the railways? Let the answer be given in accordance with the facts. The day before the order of the delegates declining to haul Pullman cars went into effect, the General Managers' association, representing the principal western railways, met and passed a series of resolutions declaring, in substance, that they would uphold the Pullman company in its fight upon the employes; that they would haul Pullman cars, and that they would stand together in crushing out the American Railway Union. The resolutions in question were published in the city papers, and can be referred to in substantiation of this avowal. It will thus be seen that the railway companies virtually joined forces with the Pullman company—went into partnership with it, so to speak, to reduce and defeat the half-starved employes. In this way the trouble was extended from line to line and from system to system, until a crisis has been reached.

"The business of the country is demoralized to an extent that defies exaggeration. To say that the situation is alarming is entirely within the bounds of prudent statement. Every good citizen must view the outlook with a grave concern. Something should, something must, be done. The American people are a peace-loving people—they want neither anarchy nor revolution. They have faith in their institutions; they believe in law and order; they believe in good government; but they also believe in fair play. Once aroused, they will not tolerate arbitrary and dictatorial defiance, even on the part of an alliance of rich and powerful corporations.

"What can be done to dispel the apprehension that now prevails and restore peace and confidence? The American Railway Union, by whose authority and in whose behalf this statement is made, stands ready—to do anything in its power, provided it is honorable, to end this trouble. This, briefly stated, is the position the organization occupies: It simply insists that the Pullman

company shall meet its employes and do them justice. We guarantee that the latter will accept any reasonable proposition. The company may act through its officials or otherwise, and the employes through their chosen representatives. Let them agree as far as they can, and where they fail to agree, let the points in dispute be submitted to arbitration. The question of the recognition of the American Railway Union or any other organization is waived. We do not ask, nor have we ever asked, for recognition as an organization. We care nothing about that, and, so far as we are concerned, it has no part in the controversy. Let the officials deal with the employes without reference to organization. Let the spirit of conciliation, mutual concession and compromise animate and govern both sides, and there will be no trouble in reaching a settlement that will be satisfactory to all concerned. This done, let the railway companies agree to restore all their employes to their stations without prejudice, and the trouble will be ended. The crisis will thus be averted, traffic will be resumed and peace will reign. The railways are not required to recognize the American Railway Union. This has never been asked, nor is it asked now. I have now clearly and briefly as possible stated the position of the American Railway Union as it was at the beginning of the trouble, and as it is now.

"If there are those who discover in this statement a weakening on the part of the employes, as has been so often charged when an exposition of the true attitude of our order was attempted, we have only to say that they are welcome to such solace as such a perverted conclusion affords them. We have been deliberately and maliciously misrepresented, but we have borne it all with unwavering faith that the truth will finally and powerfully prevail. We firmly believe our cause is just, and while we hold that belief we will not recede. If we are wrong, we are ready to be convinced. We are open to reason and to conviction, but we will not be cowed nor intimidated. Were we to sacrifice the multiplied thousands of wage-workers who have committed their interests to our hands and yield to the pressure of corporate power, we would be totally unworthy of American citizenship.

"It has been asked: What sense is there in sympathetic strikes? Let the corporations answer. When one is assailed, they all go to the rescue. They stand together; they supply each other with men, money and equipments. Labor, in unifying its forces, simply follows their

example. The corporations established the precedent. If the proceeding is vicious and indefensible, let them first abolish it. In this contest, labor will stand by labor. Other organizations of workingmen have themselves felt the oppressive hand of corporate capital. They will not be called out, but will go out. And the spectacle of Mr. Pullman, fanned by the breezes of the seashore while his employes are starving, is not calculated to prevent their fellow-wage-workers from going to their rescue by the only means at their command.

"A few words in reference to myself, although ordinarily I pay no attention to misrepresentation or vituperation, may not be out of place, not because of myself, personally, but on account of the cause I have the honor to, in part, represent, which may suffer if silence is maintained while it is assailed with falsehood and malignant detraction. I shirk no responsibility, neither do I want credit to which I am not entitled. This strike was not 'ordered' by myself, nor by any other individual. I have never 'ordered' nor 'called' anybody out. Under the rules of the American Railway Union, members can only strike when a majority of their number so decide. The vote of the delegates in this instance was unanimous, and wherever men have struck, they did so of their accord. I have simply served the notice after the men themselves had determined to go out. This is the extent of my authority, and I have never exceeded it. My alleged authority to 'call' or 'order' men out has been made the pretext on which to assail me with every slander that malignity could conceive.

"So far as I am personally concerned detraction cannot harm me, nor does it matter if it could. I do not amount to more than the humblest member of our order—perhaps not as much. Fate or fortune has assigned me a duty, and, no matter how trying the ordeal or severe the penalties, propose to perform it. The reflection that an honest man has nothing to fear sustains and comforts me in every hour of trial.

"In closing, let me repeat that we stand ready to do our part toward averting the impending crisis. We have no false pride to stand in the way of a settlement. We do not want 'official' recognition. All we ask is fair play for the men who have chosen us to represent them. If the corporations refuse to yield and stubbornly maintain that there is 'nothing to arbitrate,' the responsibility for what may ensue will be upon their heads, and they cannot escape its penalties.

—EUGENE V. DEBS.

Keep in the middle of the road.

Donahoe's Magazine.

Donahoe's Magazine continues to blaze the way to mutual appreciation and honest friendship between Christian Americans, Catholic and Protestant. Its spirit, infused month after month into an ever growing and enthusiastic constituency, must make for better conditions, social, political, and religious, in this country. Protestant periodicals may well follow the example set by Donahoe's, for with sectarian prejudice and class bigotries clouding the national vision, a clear view of existing political, social, and economic evils is impossible. The leading article of Donahoe's this month is thoroughly in line with the great purpose of the magazine; it bears the title—surprising to find in a Catholic magazine—"The Blessings of the A. P. A." The article itself is more striking even than the title.

It is a fair and fearless exposition of present religious wrongs and political abuses, and will be remembered long after it is read. Another great feature in the July number of "After Death: the Catholic Church and Cremation," by Abbe Hogan, of Washington University, in which the position of the Catholic Church regarding the disposition of the dead is stated fully, for the first time, we believe, in an American periodical. There are plenty of light reading, pretty pictures, good poems, and some very thoughtful "Talks to the Typewriter" in this number.

The - Portfolios - of - the - MAGIC CITY

Are printed in Natural Photographic Colors, which gives the illustrations a softness and marvelous beauty of finish never attained by any other publication.

The Complete Series (16 numbers) will constitute a Large and Beautiful Oblong Volume, 11x13 3/4 inches. Illustrated with:

Over 300 Grand Views,

Specially Representing:

All the Principal Buildings, Great Paintings, Foreign and State Buildings, Col. brated Statuary, General Views, Complete views of Art Gallery, Interior Views, Character Sketches on the Midway, Architectural Detail, Curious Foreign Types, And all the Grand and Wonderful Features of the Great World's Fair, made at the height of the splendor of the World's Exposition.

By a Special Corps of Artists,

Including the Official Photographer of the United States Government.

On receipt of a 1-lb. Cap Shea Soda wrapper and 10 cents, we will mail one number, or 16 wrappers and \$1.60 will secure complete set.

Address DeLAND & CO.,

FAIRPORT, N. Y.

PICTURES FREE.

A superb mammoth tintograph in 12 colors by the distinguished artist, David Humphrey, is 2 feet long and 14 inches wide and will be sent free if you tell your friends. It is called "OUR VISITORS," and shows a beautiful dimpled darling clad in a warm, rich, fur-lined cloak, basket and umbrella in hand; she pulls the snow covered latch, while her golden hair shimmers in the sunshine, her cheeks bluish with health and vigor and her roguish eyes sparkle merrily. **Sure to delight you.** Copy will be sent free postpaid, if you promise to tell your friends and send 11 cents in stamp or silver for a three months' trial subscription to THE WORLD'S FAIR, an illustrated monthly magazine, with stories, anecdotes, fashions and all articles of interest by best authors and cartoonists monthly.

RUSSELL PUBLISHING CO.,

198 Summer St., Boston, Mass.